



# LANGUAGE ARTS

# 5

## FOR FAMILIES

**Y**OU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support language arts learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic excellence!

## FIFTH GRADE

### What to expect:

In fifth grade, children will read a variety of increasingly difficult materials, including newspapers, magazines, books, plays, biographies, poetry, myths, legends and other informational and technology-based content. They will read for different purposes, such as to find information or for fun. At this age, children are able to focus on elements of writing including style, structure and the author's purpose for writing. They can explore words with multiple meanings and make educated guesses about what words mean and learn the places and countries they came from.

### By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Write summaries that follow a logical order and include the main points and details of a piece of writing.
- Develop stories with well-thought-out characters, descriptive settings and interesting plots.
- Use word parts such as affixes, roots and stems to determine the meaning of words.
- Develop a variety of sentences of different lengths with correct structure.
- Provide evidence (facts, examples and details) from a piece of writing to support ideas and draw conclusions.
- Develop longer writing pieces through editing and rewriting to create clear and organized work.

### What to do at home:

- Discuss whose point of view the story is told from and how it would change if another character wrote it.
- Encourage your child to read multiple pieces of information on a topic and discuss the differences.
- Write a paragraph on a topic of interest, including key details, facts and information.
- Encourage your child to use dictionaries and online resources to understand the meaning and pronunciation of words.
- Discuss interesting words, such as those with many meanings (*bark*, etc.), the same or opposite meanings (*smart*, *clever*, *intelligent*, etc.) and those that sound or are spelled alike (*they're*, *their*, *there*, etc.).



OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF  
**EDUCATION**  
— CHAMPION EXCELLENCE —



# LANGUAGE ARTS

## FOR FAMILIES

### Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and want to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity contributes to success in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to spark curiosity, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, be creative, discover answers and explore the world.

Cultivate your child's curiosity with guiding questions like these:

- If you were in a play, what would your character be like?
- If you could end your favorite movie a different way, how would you change it and why?
- How would you explain eating spaghetti to someone who has never done it before?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It's okay if you don't have the answer every time. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

### Fostering Communication

Families can play a role in helping their children learn to be good communicators by encouraging them to add new words to their vocabulary, express themselves and be good listeners. As children's communication skills grow, they are able to learn new ideas, get along with others and develop positive relationships and a strong self-image.

Cultivate your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- What do you think we should have for breakfast tomorrow?
- What goals can you set to make tomorrow better than today?
- What was your favorite part of the week and why?
- How did you help someone in need today?

### Fostering Comprehension

Reading is a building block to success in all school subjects and a critical skill that develops with time and practice. Encourage your child to read for pleasure, and be a good role model by reading things you enjoy. Use the following questions to help fifth-graders understand what they are reading.

#### BEFORE READING

- Is this the type of book you usually choose? Why or why not?
- By looking at the cover, what do you think the author's reason for writing the book might be?
- What do you think the book will be about?

#### DURING READING

- Will you read a short section to me with feeling in your voice?
- What do you do when you don't understand what you just read?
- What resources can you use to understand words you aren't familiar with?

#### AFTER READING

- Give a summary of the book in 10 words.
- What problem did the main character face? What was the solution to that problem?
- What message is the author sharing with the reader? Why do you think that?



# MATH

# 5

FOR FAMILIES

**YOU ARE** your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support math learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic excellence!

## FIFTH GRADE

### What to expect:

In fifth grade, students will practice more complex computation with fractions, decimals and larger numbers using the four basic operations: addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Fifth-grade math also emphasizes real-world situations to help students strengthen their skills and solve problems that occur in their daily lives.

### By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Divide multi-digit numbers with remainders. For example, 432 divided by 11 is 39 with a remainder of 3.
- Add and subtract decimals and fractions with like and unlike denominators. For example,  $\frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{4}$  can be calculated as  $\frac{1}{8} + \frac{2}{8} = \frac{3}{8}$ .
- Describe and find the volume of three-dimensional shapes. For example, a cube with dimensions of 4 inches wide by 3 inches deep and 4 inches tall would have a volume of 48 inches because  $4 \times 3 \times 4 = 48$ .
- Construct and analyze double-bar and line graphs and use ordered pairs on coordinate grids.
- Find the mean, median, mode and range from a set of numbers.

### What to do at home:

- Cook with children using recipes that include fractions.
- Determine the number of ice cubes it takes to fill a container to help your child understand the concept of volume.
- Sort objects into three to five categories and ask your child to create a graph based on the categories and explain it to you.
- Provide your child with five numbers – for example, 26, 30, 32, 32, 35. Ask your child to find the *mean*, or average (31); *median*, or middle number (32); *mode*, or number that occurs the most (32); and *range*, the difference between the highest and lowest number ( $35 - 26 = 9$ ).



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Cultivate your child's curiosity with guiding questions like these:

- What would happen if houses were shaped like pyramids?
- Who do you think knows the largest number in the world, and how did they figure it out?
- If we didn't have coins or bills to use for money, what would we do?

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# SCIENCE

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**Y**OU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support science learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic excellence!

## FIFTH GRADE

### What to expect:

In fifth grade, students are able to answer more advanced scientific questions. These include: "When matter changes, does its weight change?", "How much water can be found in different places on Earth?", "Can new substances be created by combining other substances?", "How does matter work its way through ecosystems?", "Where does the energy in food come from, and what is it used for?", "How do shadows or the amount of daylight and darkness change from day to day?" and "How does the appearance of some stars change in different seasons?"

### By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Develop an understanding that regardless of how matter changes form, its weight does not change.
- Determine if the mixing of two or more substances results in new substances.
- Create a model to describe how the geosphere (Earth's surface), biosphere (living organisms), hydrosphere (water) and atmosphere interact with one another.
- Describe and graph data to show how water is distributed on Earth.
- Develop a model to describe how matter is made of particles too small to be seen.
- Understand why and how plants get most of the materials they need to grow from air and water.
- Use models to describe how energy in animals' food was once energy from the sun.
- Develop an understanding of daily patterns of change in the length and direction of shadows, the amount of daylight and darkness and the seasonal appearance of some stars in the night sky.

### What to do at home:

- Ask your child to cook with you and discuss how, when you mix two or more substances together, they sometimes form a new substance.
- Discuss how the construction of a new house or building might change the ecosystem from before the construction began.
- Go outside on clear nights and look at the stars. Ask your child to describe patterns they notice and explain how the sky looks different in the summer versus the winter.
- Research your town's local recycling program or facility.



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Cultivate your child's curiosity with guiding questions like these:

- Do you think animals communicate? If so, how?
- What are the best things about nature?
- Does the night sky look the same every night of the year? Why or why not?

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# SOCIAL STUDIES

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## FIFTH GRADE

### What to expect:

Students at this age are becoming more independent learners. They are able to come up with questions to guide their learning and can understand different perspectives and how issues are connected. Fifth-graders will study the history of the United States, beginning with the settlement of Virginia at Jamestown in 1607 and concluding with the ratification of the Constitution of the United States.

### By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Examine the reasons and motivations for English exploration and settlement in Jamestown, Va., and Plymouth, Mass., and later in other colonies.
- Compare the three colonial regions and how members of different social classes experienced daily life.
- Examine the cause and effect of significant events leading to armed conflict between the colonies and Great Britain.
- Explain why the ideals of equality, inalienable rights and consent of the governed were established in the Declaration of Independence.
- Analyze the significant military and diplomatic events of the Revolutionary War and the contributions of key individuals and groups.
- Examine the issues and events the young nation encountered that led to the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia in 1787.
- Determine the main purposes of the U.S. government in the Preamble and the Constitution of the United States and summarize the liberties protected in the Bill of Rights.

### What to do at home:

- Compare exploration in the past with exploration today. What and where do we explore today?
- Describe the concept of revolution. What revolutionized communication, transportation, industry, etc.?
- Ask your child to write a personal declaration of independence from something relevant in real life using Thomas Jefferson's format.
- Listen to and watch songs and videos that help explain our system of government.
- Read the Bill of Rights and look for these liberties in current events.



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Cultivate your child's curiosity with guiding questions like these:

- If you could change one rule or law, what would you change and why?
- If you could go back in time and interview someone, who would it be and what would you ask?
- What makes you feel brave?

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